



TRINITY
CHURCH

Sermon Discussion Guide
January 19, 2025
Psalm 32

Read the sermon text (Psalm 32) together and briefly summarize the main points of the sermon (see outline below). Recapping the sermon text and sermon outline can be a helpful way to start the group, even if everyone did hear the sermon. If someone did not hear the sermon, at least they have now heard the text, or part of the text...

When You Pray: Prayers of Confession

Psalm 32

Sermon Outline

1. What is forgiveness?
 1. Definition: forgive, cover, not count against
 2. Necessary because... we are broken
 3. Effective for salvation, cleansing
2. What is confession?
 1. Definition: Prayer for forgiveness. Admitting/acknowledging/making known, sincere, humble.
 2. Necessary because... we wander. Wandering is painful.
 3. Cleansing

Sermon Thought: Believers are called to confess their sin to receive forgiveness.

Sermon Discussion questions

*After briefly reviewing the message outline and text, use these questions to further examine the sermon and to discuss how these truths apply to daily life, so we can “be doers of the word, and not hearers only” (James 1:22). Based on your knowledge of the people in your home group, **select the questions that will best help you frame the group’s discussion** of this sermon and sermon text. Don’t feel like you need to discuss every question... And feel free to craft some of your own questions.*

1. Prime the Pump Question: what is the most stubborn animal that you have ever encountered?
2. Was there anything in the sermon or the text that stood out to you?
3. How has God used the 21 days of Prayer and Fasting in your life so far?
4. Praying for the lost—who or what do you commit to pray for this week?
5. What do praise and lament and confession have in common?
6. Defining forgiveness: this passage gives us three words to describe forgiveness. How are these different than human forgiving humans? How are they similar?
 1. “Forgiven” = carried up, carried away, removed
 2. “Covered” = completely fixed
 3. “Not counted against” = the debt has been paid

7. Read Psalm 103:10-13. This passage lists some things that God does NOT do, and some things that he DOES do. Which of these things do you need to hear most today, or which one speaks to a situation in your life?
8. Forgiveness is necessary because humans are broken. Read these passages. What principles can you learn about humans and how they operate? What principles can you learn about God and how he operates?
 1. Psalm 14:1-3
 2. Psalm 53:1-3
 3. Romans 3:10-12, 23
9. Forgiveness is effective for salvation. Read Romans 10:9-10. How would you explain these verses to a person who is not yet a believer?
10. Forgiveness is effective for cleansing. Why do believers still need to confess their sins, if they have already been forgiven and are "saved?"
11. Why would a person be insincere or deceitful as they confess their sins? (Psalm 34:2)
12. This passage uses three words to describe sin. Think of a friend who is not yet believing—which of these three terms would describe the way that they are living?
 1. "Transgression"—rebellious, resisting
 2. "Sin"—missing the mark
 3. "Iniquity"—twisted, crooked
13. Read Psalm 32:3-4, 9-10. Wandering is painful. Can you think of some examples of how this has been true in your life? In the lives of others you know?
14. Read Psalm 32:8. What principles about God can you learn in this verse?
15. Read 1 John 1:9. Why do you think God wants us to confess our sins if he already knows what we have done?
16. Read James 5:16. When and how is it appropriate to confess your sins to another person?
17. Read 1 Corinthians 11:27-28. In your own words, why is it important to confess your sins before taking communion?
18. How often do you think you pause to confess your sins?
19. Why do you think that God wanted you to see/hear this passage today?